

48. ADDITIONS TO THE GRASS GENERA OF MAHARASHTRA

(With two text-figures)

Intensive and extensive studies over the last 10 years on the grass flora, Family Poaceae, of southwestern Maharashtra (comprising five

districts namely Kolhapur, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara and Sindhudurg) have yielded two unrecorded grass genera from the State. Full

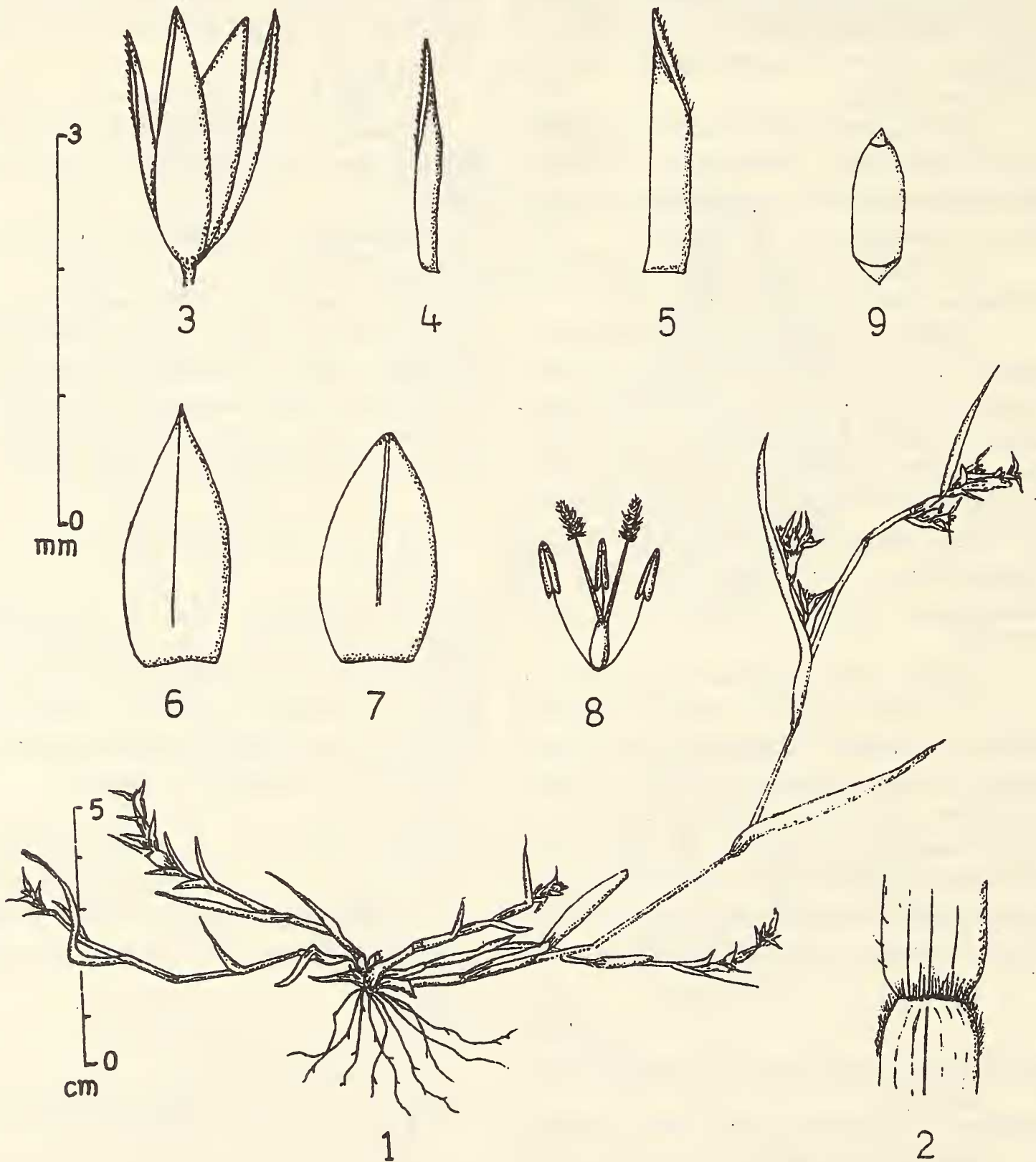


Fig. 1: *Crypsis schoenoides* (L.) Lam.: 1. Habit, 2. Ligule, 3. Spikelet, 4. Lower glume, 5. Upper glume, 6. Lemma, 7. Palea, 8. Stamens & Pistil, 9. Caryopsis

descriptions and illustrations are provided for each genus in this paper. Voucher specimens have been deposited in the Herbarium of Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

1. *Crypsis schoenoides* (L.) Lam. Tab. Encycl. Meth. Bot. 1: 166. 1791; Bor, Grass. Bur. Cey. Ind. Pak. 622. 1960. *Phleum schoenoides* L. Sp. Pl. ed. 1: 60. 1753. *Heleochloa*

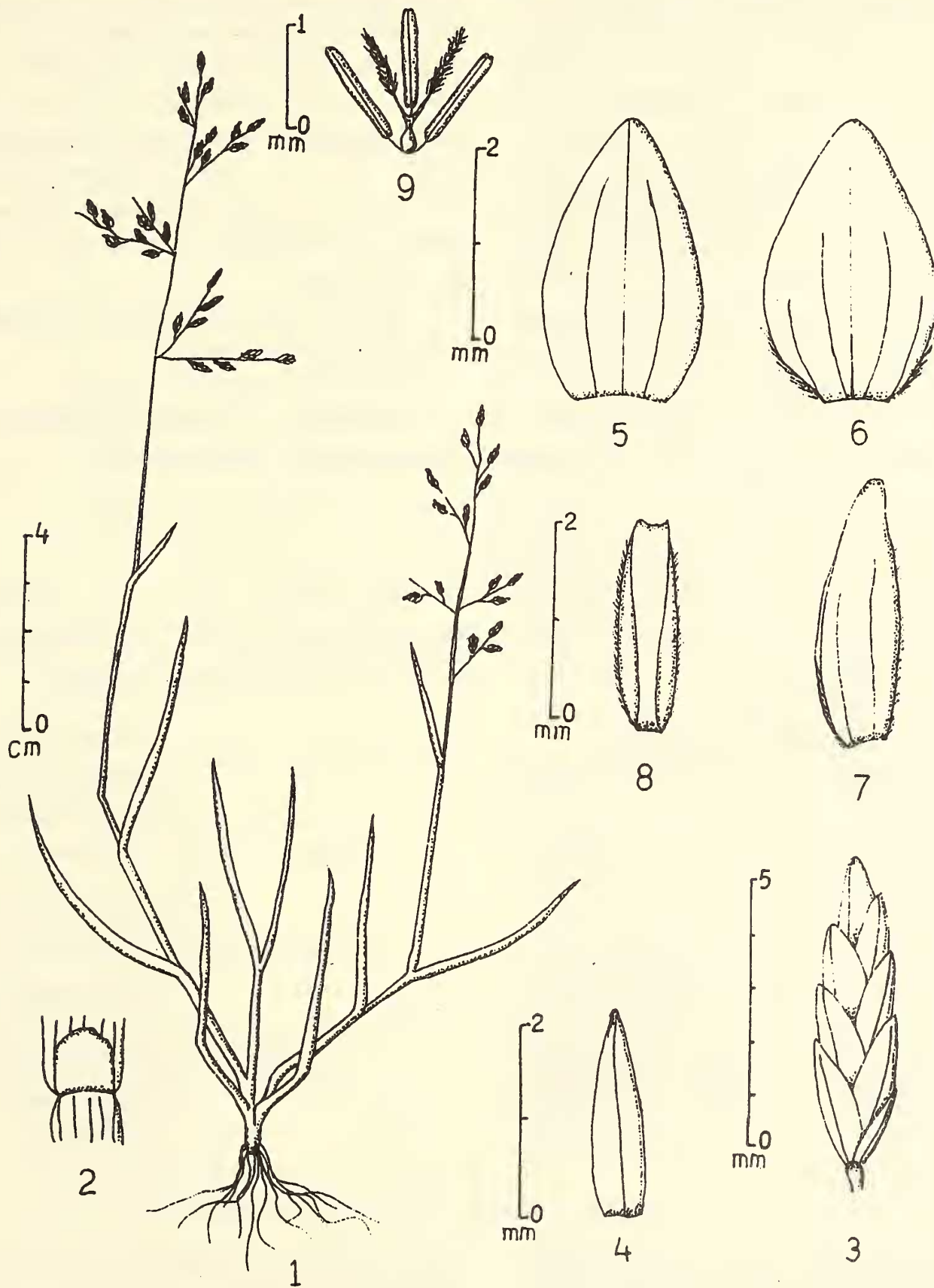


Fig. 2: *Poa annua* L.: 1. Habit, 2. Ligule, 3. Spikelet, 4. Lower glume, 5. Upper glume front view, 6. Upper glume back view, 7. Lemma, 8. Palea, 9. Stamens & Pistil

*schoenoides* (L.) Host. Icon. Gram. Austr. 1: 23. 1801. Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 7: 235. 1896. Fig. 1.

Annual or perennial herbs. Culms tufted, terete, 3-18 cm long, creeping, decumbent; nodes glabrous. Leaves: sheaths compressed, keeled, striate, margins hyaline, ciliate near the apex, ligule ciliate, 0.8-1 mm long, blades linear-lanceolate, 0.5-5 x 0.1-0.4 cm, sparsely hispid with tubercle based hairs, margins scaberulous, apex acute. Panicles compressed, compact, short, spicate, ovate-oblong, 0.4-0.8 cm long, concealed in the sheaths, rachis slender, pedicels short. Spikelets linear-lanceolate, 2-3 mm long, laterally compressed. Lower glume membranous, linear, 2-2.2 mm long, 1-nerved, keeled, keels ciliate, apex acute. Upper glume membranous, ovate-lanceolate, 2.4-3 mm long, 1-nerved, keeled, keels ciliate, apex acute. Lemma membranous, ovate-lanceolate, 2.4-3 mm long, 1-nerved, keeled, apex acute. Palea hyaline, ovate-oblong, 2.2-2.5 mm long, nerveless, keeled, apex obtuse. Lodicules 2, minute. Stamens 3; anthers 0.4-0.6 mm long. Grain oblong, 1.3-1.6 mm long.

Rare near moist places.

Fl. & Fr.: September-December.

Specimen examined: *Patil* 8987, Satara city, Satara district.

2. *Poa annua* L., Sp. Pl. 68. 1-1753; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 7: 345. 1896; Bor Grass. Bur. Cey. Ind. Pak. 547. 1960. Fig. 2.

Annual herbs. Culms tufted, terete, erect or ascending. 5-30 cm high, simple or sparingly branched; nodes glabrous. Leaves: sheaths subcompressed, glabrous, ligule membranous, 1.5-3.5 mm long; blades flat, oblong-lanceolate. 1-10 x 0.1-0.5 cm, glabrous, margins

scaberulous; apex acute. Panicles pyramidal, 2.5-7 cm long; rachis slender, glabrous, branches filiform. Spikelets ovate-oblong, 3.5-7 x 1-3 mm long, 3-6 flowered. Lower glume chartaceous, lanceolate, 1.5-2 mm long, 1-nerved, glabrous; apex subacute. Upper glume chartaceous, oblong-elliptic, 2-3 mm long, 3-nerved, glabrous; apex obtuse. Lemma chartaceous, elliptic-oblong, 2-3 mm long, 5-nerved, keeled, keels ciliate; apex obtuse. Palea chartaceous, oblong-lanceolate 1.5-2.2 mm long, keeled, keels ciliate; apex toothed. Lodicules 2. Stamens 3; anthers 0.5-1 mm long.

Rare, found growing in strawberry plantations at high altitudes.

Fl. & Fr.: August-November.

Specimen examined: *Salunkhe* 8900, Mahabaleshwar, Satara district.

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#### 49. TOXIC PHANEROGAMIC PLANTS OF MANIPUR

Manipur, a tiny state in northeast India, has luxuriant natural flora and fauna. The indigenous people of Manipur have been using natural products of plants for food, medicine and

house construction. Primitive man, in his quest for plants that could provide food, after trial and error, identified poisonous plants. Many medicinal plants are also poisonous. The effect